

45

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

20  
5  
326  
1017

COUNTRY Macao/Hong Kong/China

DATE DISTR. 19 JAN 52

SUBJECT 1. Prices for Petroleum Products, Macao  
2. Shipments from Hong Kong to Macao

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1A

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

548

DATE OF  
INFO.

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. After the closing of the Nan Kuang Company<sup>1</sup> and the suspension of its purchase of oil, the prices of various grades of petroleum and petroleum products dropped greatly in Macao. In November the price of a 53-gallon drums of gasoline in Macao was HK \$150; in the preceding few months the price had gone as high as HK \$250. Diesel oil, which had commanded as high as HK \$1,700-\$2,000, was selling in early November for HK \$600 per ton. The price of lubricating oil had dropped from a maximum of HK \$1,400 to HK \$620 per drum.
2. During October 1951 most of the products being shipped into Macao were metalwares, and electrical and communications equipment. The following cargoes arrived in Macao in late October from Hong Kong:
  - 25 October: 1,500 cattles of water pipe fittings, valued at HK \$6,300; 10 tons of copper bars, costing HK \$10,000 plus a 23 percent charge for delivery; 4 tons of water pipe in 18 and 20 foot lengths, at a total cost of HK \$2,400; 3 boxes of radio transmitting and receiving sets, costing HK \$30,000 and weighing 10 tons (sic); 2½ tons of electric cable on one reel and 2 tons of electric cable on three reels, at a total cost of HK \$50,000; 100 tires (32 x 6) costing HK \$500 each.
  - 26 October: 50 tons of Belgian steel plates, each measuring 4 feet by 8 feet, costing HK \$2,500 per ton; 5 tons of zinc plates, each measuring 3 feet by 7 feet, costing HK \$6,500; 5 tons of zinc plates, each measuring 3 feet by 6 feet, at a total cost of HK \$7,230 plus a 27 percent delivery charge; 60 75-pound drums of baking powder; 400 rubber tires; 50 piculs of galvanized wire; 30 trucks, each packed in six crates, costing HK \$18,000 plus a delivery charge of HK \$9,000;<sup>2</sup> 50 tons of copper bars, costing HK \$1,150 plus a 75 percent delivery charge; 10 tons of copper wire costing HK \$7,000 plus a 37 percent delivery charge; 95 tons of steel cables, costing HK \$2,100 plus a 58 percent delivery charge; 60 tons of sheet

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

iron, costing HK \$2,200; 28 tons of water pipe, costing HK \$32,000; 27 tons of water pipe, diameters 1, 2 and 3 inches, costing HK \$4,500 plus a 42 percent delivery charge; 36 tires (34 x 7) costing HK \$41,400 plus a 28 percent delivery charge; 7 boxes of copper pipe, each box weighing 288 pounds.

- 28 October: 6 boxes (29" x 23" x 19") of receiving and transmitting sets, each set costing HK \$5,000 plus a 31 percent delivery charge; 375 feet of water tank (sic) pipes, costing HK \$8,500 plus a 23 percent delivery charge; 5 tons of copper bars, costing HK \$9,000 plus a 21 percent delivery charge; 3 reels of electric cables at a total price of HK \$35,000 plus 13 percent delivery charge; a 10-ton lathe, measuring 50 x 40 x 40 inches, costing HK \$50,000 plus a delivery charge of HK \$16,000.
- 29 October: 7,500 feet of 4-inch black American water pipe, costing HK \$22 per foot; 14,500 feet of 4-inch black French water pipe, costing HK \$11 per foot; 200 tons of galvanized water pipe, costing HK \$4,000 per ton. These pipes had been purchased by the Shanghai Military Control Commission for the Shanghai Electric Power Company, 181 Nanking Road, Shanghai.
- 30 October: 14,000 feet of 4-inch water pipe at HK \$16 per foot, plus a delivery charge of 45 percent; 99 448-pound drums of preservative powder at a total price of HK \$43,000 plus a 48 percent delivery charge.

25X1A

1. [REDACTED] Comment. The closing of the Nan Kuang Company was reported in [REDACTED]. The resulting drop in Macao prices was featured in the Hong Kong press in early November.
2. [REDACTED] Comment. This is obviously the price for one truck. The reader will notice other instances in this report where, though not stated, the prices given are for cargo units rather than for the entire shipment. Inspection of the figures given indicate the following prices: water pipe, HK \$11-\$16 per foot, or HK \$4,000-\$4,500 per ton; copper bars, HK \$1,150-\$1,800 per ton; tires, HK \$500-\$1.150 apiece. However, [REDACTED] reported the price of copper in Macao in mid-October as HK \$10,000 per ton, which makes the price given for the copper shipment on 26 October (HK \$1,150) appear to be in error. Possibly the figures for copper should be revised to HK \$7,000-\$11,500 per ton.

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

Document No.	001
No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Class. Changed To:	TS 2
Auth:	HK 78
Date:	22. 2. 78
By:	212